

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 43 were pending in the above-identified application. Applicant has amended claims 1, 6, 22, and 27. Claims 1 to 43 remain pending.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1

The Examiner rejected claims 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication Nos. 2003/0073261 ("Olav et al.") in view of 2003/0019832 ("Conant et al."). Applicant has amended claim 1, which now recites:

1. A micro-electro-mechanical system (MEMS) mirror device, comprising:
 - a mirror comprising a length greater than 4000 and less than 5500 microns, and a thickness greater than 240 microns;
 - beams connected to the mirror, wherein each beam extends from a respective proximal end at the mirror to a respective distal end spaced from the mirror, and each beam comprises a plurality of respective rotational comb teeth;
 - bonding pads; and
 - springs connected between the beams and the bonding pads, wherein each beam is connected by multiple springs along a rotational axis of the mirror to respective bonding pads, and at least one spring is located between another spring and the mirror.

Amended claim 1 (emphasis added). Applicant submits that Olav et al. does not disclose that "each beam is connected by multiple springs along a rotational axis of the mirror to respective bonding pads, and at least one spring is located between another spring and the mirror." Instead, each beam in Olav et al. is connected by a single spring to a bonding pad. Conant et al. does not cure this deficiency in Olav et al. Accordingly, amended claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 2 to 5, 8 to 18, 20, 21, and 42

Claims 2 to 5, 8 to 18, 20, 21, and 42 depend from amended claim 1 and are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1.

Claims 6, 7, and 19

The Examiner objected to claims 6, 7, and 19 but indicated they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claim 6 to independent form. Accordingly, claim 6 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 7 depends from amended claim 6 and is thus in condition for allowance.

Claim 19 depends from amended claim 1 and is patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1.

Claim 22

The Examiner rejected claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Olav et al. in view of Conant et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,704,132 ("Dewa"). Applicant has amended claim 22 with similar claim language as amended claim 1. Accordingly, amended claim 22 is patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1.

Claims 23 to 26, 29 to 36, 38 to 41, and 43

Claims 23 to 26, 29 to 36, 38 to 41, and 43 depend from amended claim 22 and are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as amended claim 22.

Claims 27, 28, and 37

The Examiner objected to claims 27, 28, and 37 but indicated they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claim 27 to independent form. Accordingly, claim 27 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 28 depends from amended claim 27 and is thus in condition for allowance.

Claim 37 depends from amended claim 22 and is patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as amended claim 22.

Summary

In summary, claims 1 to 43 were pending in the above-identified application when last examined. Applicant has amended 1, 6, 22, and 27. For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to allow claims 1 to 43. Should the Examiner have any questions, please call the undersigned at (408) 382-0480x206.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.



Signature

3/7/06

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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